

2 ~~34~~. (Unchanged) The material of claim ~~33~~ comprising at least about 50 weight percent titanium.

3 ~~35~~. (Unchanged) The material of claim ~~33~~ comprising greater than 0 weight percent tantalum and less than or equal to about 12 weight percent tantalum.

4 ~~36~~. (Unchanged) The material of claim ~~33~~ comprising greater than or equal to about 7 weight percent tantalum and less than or equal to about 12 weight percent tantalum.

5 ~~37~~. (Unchanged) The material of claim ~~33~~ being in the shape of a PVD target.

6 ~~44~~. (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

7 ~~45~~. (Amended) The material of claim ~~44~~ comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

B<sub>1</sub>

6

8 ~~46~~. (Amended) The material of claim ~~44~~ comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

9 ~~47~~. (Amended) The material of claim ~~44~~ comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

10 ~~48~~. (Amended) The material of claim ~~44~~ comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

11 ~~50~~. (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the titanium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

B,

b

<sup>12</sup>~~53~~. (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises titanium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

<sup>13</sup>~~54~~. (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

<sup>14</sup>~~55~~. (Amended) The material of claim <sup>13</sup>~~54~~ comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

<sup>15</sup>~~56~~. (Amended) The material of claim <sup>13</sup>~~54~~ comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

B1

6

16 ~~57~~ (Amended) The material of claim ~~54~~<sup>13</sup> comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

17 ~~58~~ (Amended) The material of claim ~~54~~<sup>13</sup> comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

18 ~~59~~ (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

19 ~~60~~ (Amended) The material of claim ~~59~~<sup>18</sup> comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

20 ~~61~~ (Amended) The material of claim ~~59~~<sup>18</sup> comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

B1

21 18  
62. (Amended) The material of claim 59 comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

22 18  
63. (Amended) The material of claim 59 comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

23  
64. (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the zirconium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

24 23  
65. (Amended) The material of claim 64 comprising the zirconium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

25 23  
66. (Amended) The material of claim 64 comprising the zirconium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

B1

5

<sup>23</sup>  
~~26~~ 67. (Amended) The material of claim ~~64~~ comprising the zirconium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

<sup>33</sup>  
~~37~~ 68. (Amended) The material of claim ~~64~~ comprising the zirconium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

~~28~~ 69. (Amended) A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material is in the shape of a PVD target.

~~29~~ 70. (unchanged) A PVD target which consists essentially of Hf and Cr.

B,

→